

Arafat, Wazzan to hold talks

BAHRAIN (Agencies) — Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) leader Yasser Arafat arrived in Tunis Monday after talks with President Ali Abdullah Saleh in Sanaa, the official Saudi Press Agency reported. Mr. Arafat is scheduled to meet with Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq Al Wazzan and Foreign Minister Elie Salem in Tunis later on Monday. Mr. Arafat arrived in Sanaa Sunday from Saudi Arabia where he held talks with King Fahd on the outcome of meetings last week in South Yemen of the Palestinian leadership. The PLO chairman and some commando chiefs adopted a compromise stand on Middle East peace initiatives at the three-day meeting in Aden.

Jordan Times

An independent Arab political daily published by the Jordan Press Foundation

جوردان تايمز بوليتيكي يومية مستقلة منشورة من قبل مؤسسة الصحافة الأردنية "الرأي"

Wazzan says talks progressing

TUNIS (R) — Lebanese Prime Minister Shafiq Al Wazzan said Monday that talks on an Israeli withdrawal from Lebanon were progressing slowly but Lebanon rejected Israeli designs on its territory, the Tunisian News Agency TAP reported. Mr. Wazzan was speaking after talks on the situation in Lebanon with Tunisian Prime Minister Mohammad Mzali and the two countries' foreign ministers, the agency said. Mr. Wazzan and Foreign Minister Elie Salem Sunday began a three-day official visit to Tunisia, their first to an Arab country since Lebanese President Amin Gemayel took office last September.

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Increase in customs duties to strengthen treasury revenues

AMMAN (Petra) — Finance and Customs Minister Salem Mas'adeh said on Monday that the aim of increasing customs duties on vehicles and alcoholic drinks is to increase the revenues of the treasury "in line with the government plan that the increase of the state revenues be not at the expense of essential and basic materials which affect limited-income citizens." He said the ministry expects that the revenues of the increase for 1983 would be some JD 6 to 7 million. The cabinet decided on Sunday to raise customs duties on alcoholic drinks and vehicles effective Jan. 31 to match the increased international prices of these commodities. Customs duties on alcoholic drinks were raised by 50 to 60 per cent and on vehicles by 10 to 20 per cent.

Dutch delegation to arrive in Amman on Feb. 8

AMMAN (Petra) — Netherlands Foreign Minister Hans Van Den Broek will arrive in Amman on Feb. 8 at the head of an official delegation for a three-day visit to Jordan. During their stay in Jordan, they will have talks with senior Jordanian officials on relations between Jordan and the Netherlands on the developments of the Middle East situation and the issues of joint interest.

Palestinian officials meet in Damascus today

AMMAN (R) — Palestinian officials will meet in Damascus Tuesday to discuss the situation in the Israeli-occupied West Bank and Gaza Strip, Palestinian sources said here Monday. The meeting of the Palestinian Higher Committee for Occupied Territories Affairs will group representatives of all commando organisations and other Palestinian officials. The meeting precedes one to be held here by the joint Jordanian-Palestinian committee within a few days. Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) chief Yasser Arafat is due to visit Jordan before the Palestinian National Council (parliament in exile) meets in Algiers on Feb. 14, the sources added.

Algerian envoy arrives in Jeddah

BAHRAIN (R) — An adviser to Algerian President Chadli Benjedid, whose country this month launched a fresh peace initiative in the 29-month-old Gulf war, arrived in Saudi Arabia Monday. The adviser, Akhdar El-Ibrahimi, arrived in Jeddah, the official Saudi press agency reported. When King Fahd of Saudi Arabia visited Algeria in November informed sources said he apparently asked Algiers to spearhead fresh peace moves. The Gulf states have backed Iraq in the war with Iran but are worried lest the fighting spills over into their region. Algeria successfully mediated between Iran and Iraq in a border dispute in 1975 and helped in the release in 1981 of 52 American hostages held in Tehran. Previous peace efforts by Algeria, the Jeddah-based Organisation of Islamic Conference (OIC), the United Nations and the Non-Aligned Movement have all failed.

Kreisky flies to Washington

VIENNA (R) — Austria's Socialist Chancellor Bruno Kreisky travels to the United States Tuesday for talks with President Reagan aimed at thawing a recent chill in relations between their countries. Criticism by Dr. Kreisky of U.S. economic sanctions against the Soviet Union and Poland, and American concern that sophisticated Western technology may be reaching Communist countries through neutral Austria, have contributed to the present cool climate. Dr. Kreisky has said he expects a major topic of his Washington talks to be the Middle East situation, with which he has been actively concerned since the early 1970s.

Socialist leader sees compromise in Mideast

By Lamis Andoni
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A compromise Middle East peace formula incorporating positive elements of U.S. proposals as well as the Arab peace plan could serve as a basis for peace negotiations, Mr. Mario Soares, vice president of Socialist International, said here Monday.

Mr. Soares, who left Amman Monday after three days of talks with Jordanian leaders, said that the peace initiative announced last September by U.S. President Ronald Reagan contains positive elements as reflected in a call for withdrawal of Israeli forces from Arab territories occupied in 1967. "I think that the issue of the West Bank and Gaza Strip constitutes the essence of the conflict in the Middle East," Mr. Soares, a former Portuguese prime minister, said.

He added that the conflict "will not be solved as long as the Palestinians are without land."

Moreover, the majority of the population of the West Bank and Gaza Strip are Palestinians, he added.

However, Mr. Soares, refrained from saying if that implies that Socialist International endorses the idea of establishing an independent Palestinian state in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

"I am leading a fact-finding mission of Socialist International which will draw up a position, based on its findings, to be adopted by the Socialist International at a conference to be held in Sydney next April," Mr. Soares said.

Mr. Soares said he expects "an acceleration" in the Israeli-Lebanese negotiations by the end

"Consequently, I cannot give any declaration before a unified position for the Socialist International is formulated," he added.

Citing the same reasons, Mr. Soares refused to comment on the position of the Israeli Labour Party, which supported a Socialist international member, Israel's invasion of Lebanon last June.

Mr. Soares, however, expressed the view that the Socialist International thinks that the Israeli Labour Party is "one of the major components in an negotiation for a solution to the Middle East conflict."

The Israeli Labour Party, along with the leftist MAPAM in Israel are members of the Socialist International.

Mr. Soares, who arrived from Lebanon Saturday, said that the Socialist International delegation held talks with President Amin Gemayel and U.S. negotiating team in Lebanon. Morris Draper, who is the head of the delegation, also met with Walid Jumblatt, chairman of the Lebanese Progressive Socialist Party, which is the only Arab member in the Socialist International.

Mr. Soares said that he expects "an acceleration" in the Israeli-Lebanese negotiations by the end

of this week.

"In our talks we sensed a feeling among all parties concerned in Lebanon that if the current Lebanese-Israeli negotiations do not improve soon, the situation in the country will sharply deteriorate," Mr. Soares said.

Referring to reports which indicate that the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) might be invited to attend the congress of the Socialist International next April, Mr. Soares said: "A discussion is taking place among the members of the Socialist International on whether or not to invite the PLO as an observer to the congress. However, we have not reached a decision on that issue yet," he added.

Mr. Soares and the ten-member mission, Monday met with his Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan.

"His Royal Highness, gave us an in-depth and detailed explanation of the Jordanian position regarding the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the area," Mr. Soares said.

He described his talks with Jordanian officials as "fruitful and successful."

However, Mr. Soares said that the mission would have appreciated a chance to meet His Majesty King Hussein.

Mr. Soares said he is looking forward to meet the King in the future.

Mr. Soares and members of the delegation, who left Amman Monday for Israel, are expected to hold talks with Israeli President Yitzhak Navon, Prime Minister Menachem Begin and Labour Party leader Shimon Peres, who is one of the 14 vice-presidents of the Socialist International and with leader of the MAPAM.

Ahmad Tarawneh heads newly-appointed senate

AMMAN (J.T.) — Former National Consultative Council Speaker Ahmad Tarawneh has been appointed speaker of a newly-appointed, 30-member Upper House of Parliament.

A royal decree issued here Monday named the new council as the following:

- 1) Prime Minister Mudar Badran
- 2) Zaid Rifal
- 3) Anastas Hanaaniya
- 4) Abdul Rahman Khalifah
- 5) Ahmad Tarawneh (speaker)
- 6) Riad Miffeh
- 7) Daifallah Al Hmoud
- 8) Wasfi Mirza
- 9) Saleh Al Majali
- 10) Akel Al Fayed

- 11) Hazem Nusseibeh
- 12) Subhi Amin Amro
- 13) Hassan Al Kayed
- 14) Foad Qaqish
- 15) Thaqan Al Hindawi
- 16) Akram Zu'aiter
- 17) Bahaddin Touqan
- 18) Kamel 'Eraqat
- 19) Mohammad Farhan Obeidat
- 20) Tharwat Talhoumi
- 21) Mohammad Odeh Kor'an
- 22) Sharif Mohammad Hashem
- 23) Nofan Al Saud
- 24) Mohammad Abu Tayeh
- 25) Mohammad Minwer Al Hadid
- 26) Ahmad Al Khalil
- 27) Juma'a Hammad
- 28) Saud Al Qadi
- 29) Qasem Al 'Ittan
- 30) Faisal Al Jazi



Mr. Ahmad Tarawneh
The previous Upper House of Parliament, whose term expired on Jan. 20, 1983, was headed by Mr. Bahjat Al Talhoumi.

No sign of progress seen in Monday's Khalde talks

KHALDE, Lebanon (R) — The latest round of talks on the withdrawal of Israeli troops from Lebanon ended Monday without any sign of impending progress.

Lebanese, Israeli and U.S. spokesmen read out identical statements when the talks broke up saying only that the negotiators "advanced in bridging gaps in the mutual understanding of the points."

The negotiations, which started more than a month ago, have been paralysed by disagreements over whether Israeli troops should be allowed to remain in South Lebanon to man observation posts and over the nature of future relations between Lebanon and Israel.

As the diplomats talked, tension remained high in the mountains around Beirut after artillery duels between Christian and Muslim militias Sunday. During the duels, Christian areas of the capital came under fire for the first time in several months.

There were no reports of full-scale fighting Monday but state radio said gunmen had exchanged shots in the mountain town of Aley.

Israeli troops also reinforced security around the beachfront hotel at Khalde, just south of Beirut, where the latest talks on their withdrawal from Lebanon took place.

Asked if he meant U.S. pressure, he replied: "I think it would be counter-productive."

Mr. Peres said an immediate interim evacuation agreement would "overcome suspicions that even if it was to remain in the places where they are at today."

He said President Mitterrand told him "France would like Jordan to take part in the peace process with the same conditions."

U.S. pressure on Israel would be counter-productive, says Peres

PARIS (R) — American pressure on Israel would be counter-productive to efforts to get foreign forces out of Lebanon, Israeli opposition leader Shimon Peres said Monday.

After meeting French President Francois Mitterrand and other officials, Mr. Peres said he thought the present stalemate over withdrawing Israeli, Palestinian and Syrian forces from Lebanon

could be broken with an interim agreement.

He said he thought the two sides could agree on immediate withdrawal from the heart of Lebanon before continuing talks on a permanent peace for the country.

"One should avoid any pressure at a time of negotiations," he said. "In my view an imposed solution is not the answer."

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Navon to retire from politics

TEL AVIV (R) — The Israeli opposition Labour Party's hopes of challenging the government of Prime Minister Menachem Begin received a setback Monday with the decision of President Yitzhak Navon to retire from politics in May.

President Navon, a former Labour politician, was seen by many as the only man who could have challenged Mr. Begin in a general election and hoped to win.

Politicians of all parties had eagerly awaited a press conference Monday at which he

revealed his plans after his five-year term as president ends in May.

"I do not intend to ask the Knesset (parliament) to elect me for another term and I do not plan to intend to enter political life," President Navon said. He added that he would devote himself to writing books and to social and educational work.

Several Labour politicians said they hoped President Navon could be persuaded to return to politics later.

Mr. Navon, 61, was the first

Israeli of Sephardic (oriental Jewish) extraction to serve as head of state. A former private secretary of Israel's first prime minister, David Ben Gurion, and for many years a Labour Knesset member, he wooed popularity with all sections of the Israeli electorate.

In the last general election of July 1981, the voters split almost down the middle on ethnic grounds with the majority of Sephardic Jews backing Mr. Begin's Likud Party and most Western and European voters supporting Labour.

Mr. Shultz, who had a separate meeting Monday with Foreign Minister Shimon Abo, was also quoted as saying the world economy should follow the U.S. economy in improving over the next 12 months or so.

Maintaining free trade and resisting protectionism would help economic recovery, Mr. Shultz said.

U.S. denies knowledge of massacres

WASHINGTON (Agencies) —

Monday flatly denied allegations in the Sunday Times of London on Jan. 30 that the U.S. government knew of the massacres in Sabra and Shatila refugee camps a day before they ended.

The State Department spokesman said "there is no truth whatsoever that any elements of the State Department, the intelligence community or members or staff members of the U.S. Senate had any knowledge of the massacres in the Beirut refugee camps until late Friday, Sept. 17, when the U.S. government acted immediately."

The spokesman emphasised that the information in the Sunday Times story was "erroneous and false", and based on "inaccurate sources."

United States to stick to its so-called "zero option" in the talks on limiting medium-range nuclear missiles in Europe.

He said Mr. Shultz, who arrived for a three-day visit Sunday on an Asian tour that will also take him to China and South Korea, had agreed in principle.

Under the zero option, the Soviet Union would dismantle its

SS-20 missiles targeted on Europe in return for the scrapping of Western plans to deploy 572 U.S. cruise and Pershing missiles in Europe.

Soviet officials have rejected this but suggested some of the SS-20s could be moved from Europe to Siberia, a move Japan described last week as detrimental to peace in the Far East.

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CAIRO (R) — Iraqi first Deputy Prime Minister Taha Yassin Ramadan was quoted Monday as saying political disputes among Iran's leaders were thought by Iraq to have put off a new Iranian attack on its territories.

In an interview with Al Ahram, journal of the Egyptian opposition Liberal Party, Mr. Ramadan said: "We are expecting a massive Iranian attack on the Maysan Province with the ultimate aim of reaching the town of Al Amara."

"What could be better than an agreement under which a whole new generation of weapons systems would be banned from the world?" he asked.

In his statement, Mr. Kohl warmly welcomed the presence of U.S. troops in West Germany and strongly condemned a series of bomb attacks against U.S. military personnel and property last year.

He said these "cowardly attacks" were the work of "a criminal minority of the population."

Mr. Kohl said the overwhelming majority of West German citizens welcomed the U.S. troops as friends who were there "to serve our common security and liberty."

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Talhouni named King's counsellor

AMMAN (J.T.) — Former Upper House of Parliament Speaker Bahjat Al Talhouni has been named special counsellor to His Majesty King Hussein.

In a letter he sent to Mr. Talhouni upon appointing a new Upper House of Parliament Monday, the King praised the former speaker's services to the country since 1953, when he became a minister in the first cabinet formed after King Hussein's accession to the throne.

NCC denounces tripartite statement

AMMAN (J.T.) — The National Consultative Council (NCC) Monday denounced the tripartite Syrian-Libyan-Iranian statement issued in Damascus on Jan. 24 which pledged support for Iran against Iraq, and the council affirmed its support for the Iraqi people in their war against Iran.

Following its weekly session, presided over by Speaker Sulaiman Arar and in the presence of Prime Minister Mudar Badran and the ministers, the NCC issued a statement saying that the issuance of the tripartite statement on such circumstances which the Arab Nation is facing is a "nefarious departure from the unity of Arab ranks."

The NCC statement added that the tripartite statement is a "blow to Arab consensus and a violation of the Arab League charter and the joint Arab defence agreement."

The statement said "support of an enemy confronting us on our eastern borders is a very serious precedent, because it is a departure from the governing relations among Arab states. Such a departure is tantamount to blatant treason and does not represent the will of our Arab people in Libya and Syria." (NCC approves traffic law amendments, page 2).

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HOME NEWS

Joint committee meeting focuses on Jordanian-Greek cooperation

AMMAN (Petra) — A meeting of the joint Jordanian-Greek Economic Committee headed by Industry and Trade Ministry Under-Secretary Mohammad Saleh Al Horani and Greek National Economy Ministry Under-Secretary Dinos Honopoulos began here Monday.

The committee discussed ways of improving trade and industrial cooperation between the two countries and the possibility of establishing joint industries, particularly industries with products that can be exported to Arab countries, in view of Greece' high technical experience in this field.

as well as benefiting from Jordanian free zones in establishing joint industries.

The committee also discussed the possibility of increasing Jordanian phosphate exports to Greece to balance trade between the two countries.

The committee is expected to

explore possibilities of signing a tourism agreement between the two countries and operating a maritime line between Greek and Aqaba ports.

Cooperation between construction companies of the two countries to establish joint projects and benefiting from Greek expertise in agriculture and the training of Jordanians on navigation and ship repair and encouraging the exchange of visits between the officials of the two countries, are also included in the agenda of the meeting.

The Greek delegation arrived in Amman Sunday for a three-day visit to Jordan.

At the beginning of Monday's meeting, the heads of the two delegations expressed hope that

they would reach positive results to advance relations between the two countries. They also affirmed the need to strengthen cooperation between the two countries on the basis of mutual understanding and benefit.

The heads of the two delegations also expressed hope that Jordan and Greece would play an important role in developing cooperation and contact between the Arab World and the European continent, particularly that Greece has now joined the European Economic Community (EEC).

Mr. Horani also praised Greece' stands towards Arab issues, particularly the Palestinian cause.



The joint Jordanian-Greek Economic Committee in session Monday (Petra photo)

Anti-rabies campaign launched in three centres

AMMAN (Petra) — Three centres to combat rabies were opened in Sahab, Wadi Seer and Amman Monday. The decision was made during a meeting held by the committee in charge of combating rabies headed by Amman Deputy Governor Khaled Al Zu'bi.

The committee recommended that the Ministry of Agriculture allocate a vehicle and the necessary medicines to help combat the disease, and asked that all the workers in this field be vaccinated.

Islamic Development Bank lends JD 2.7 million to Jordan

Masa'deh confers with IDB chairman

AMMAN (Petra) — Finance Minister and Chairman of the Board of Governors of the Islamic Development Bank (IDB) Salem Masa'deh discussed Monday with IDB President Ahmad Mohamed Ali ways of developing cooperation between the IDB and Jordan, particularly regarding development projects which the IDB intends to finance after being approved economically viable.

Dr. Ali, who arrived Monday on one-day visit, explained to Mr. Masa'deh the activities and

achievements of the IDB last year and topics in the agenda of the seventh session of the board of governors scheduled to be held in Jeddah early March.

Meanwhile, the IDB and the National Planning Council (NPC) signed an agreement under which the IDB will give Jordan a loan of JD 2,700,000 to participate in financing a water and sewerage project in Zarqa and Ruseifa.

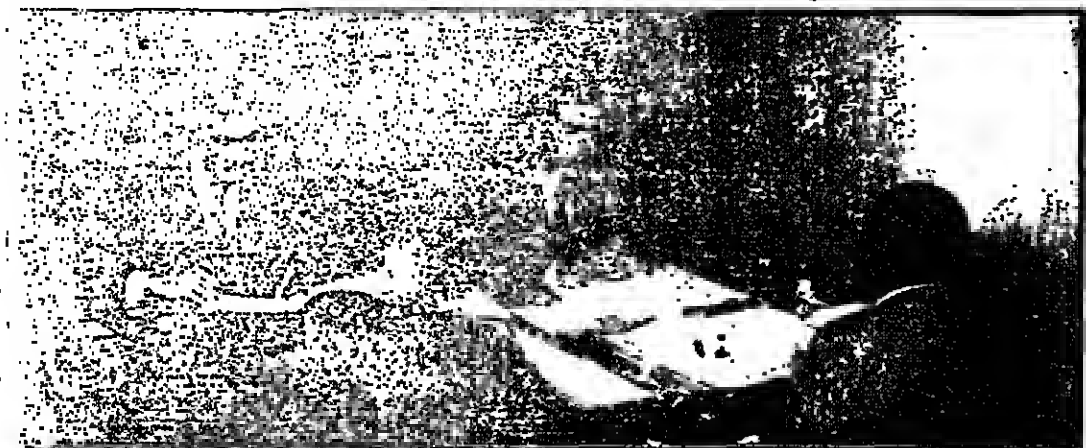
The aim of the JD 35 million project is to improve the water

network and to construct a sewerage network.

In addition to the IDB, the World Bank, the West German Construction Bank, and the U.S. Agency for International Development will participate in financing the project.

The agreement was signed for Jordan by NPC President Hanna Odeh and Dr. Ali' signed on behalf of the IDB.

Dr. Ali left Amman Monday evening.



Finance Minister Salem Masa'deh (second from left) Monday confers with the chairman of the board of governors of the Islamic Development Bank (Petra photo)

Australian country and western singer returns with his favourite box guitar

By Gamir' Almezzan.
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — There's nothing that a cross cultural barriers like a song. When Australian singer Franz Scheurer sang a few of his hits in the over-heated hotel room during an interview with the Jordan Times, he wasn't out to owe anything, but the few guests were far away looks as the songs rolled.

Swiss-born Scheurer, 34, now a naturalised Australian citizen, is currently on his fifth visit to the Middle East. His previous trips have included Lebanon, Syria, Iraq and Jordan. All have been for visits, and not tours sponsored.

The box guitar, in a well-worn

leather case, accompanies him wherever he goes. When asked to describe his technique, Mr. Scheurer simply took out his guitar and started singing.

Words sung are better than words spoken. The voice is husky, as well as dusky, bringing to mind images of setting suns and vast, rolling landscapes.

It's nearer to an American country-and-western style than anything you can think of. Mr. Scheurer is a balladeer, but not in the Australian folk tradition.

Both are quite different from Jordanian folk songs, which Mr. Scheurer loves. Unfortunately Jordanians will have few chances of hearing any of these songs, including the ones he has composed about places in Jordan like

Petra and the Siobak Castle, and that very interesting song about Jerusalem.

Mr. Scheurer sang his songs at the Friends of Children Club Sunday evening. There are plans to do other things, including a television appearance, but these are not yet definite. Certainly it would be unfortunate if these don't materialise. Mr. Scheurer would be happy to sing anywhere if invited, but insists that he's not commercial.

In Australia, he depends upon photography for his living, to make sure that commercial pressures don't compel him to sing things he doesn't like. Nurtured in the tradition of American folk singers—like Bob Dylan, Donovan and Joan Baez who blazed a trail in the '60s—Mr. Scheurer has adopted a somewhat similar style, but with different ideas.

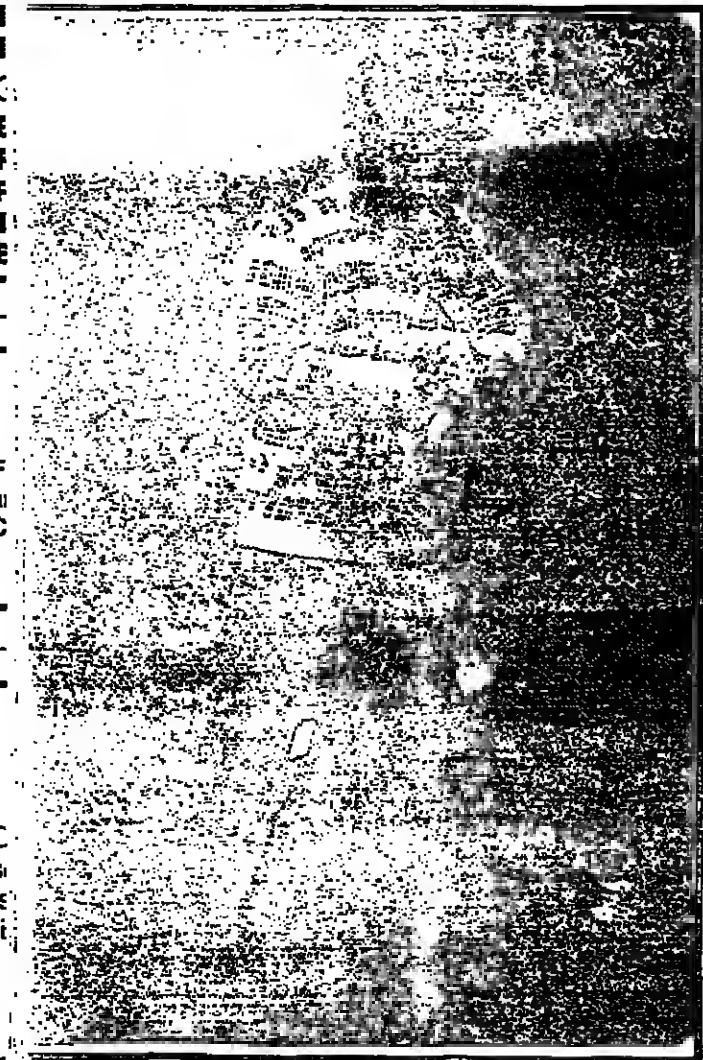
Stringently political, he says, that he will never take up causes, though he admits that sometimes it's hard to draw a line between a song voicing someone's genuine grievances and a piece of propaganda.

There are no slogans set to music in Mr. Scheurer's repertoire. He writes the lyrics and composes the music of all his songs himself. The songs are sparse, the voice accompanied only by the box guitar. Unlike certain types of song, this demands concentration on the part of the listener.

Franz Scheurer didn't come from a musical family. His family tree isn't strewn with balladeers. But there was a piano in his house which no one played. The future-singer taught himself to play when only a five-year-old, and went on to play all kinds of instruments.

He had his musical education at a Swiss conservatorium, where he trained in the trumpet. Attracted by the loud rock of the early sixties, he joined a group and played the electric guitar, later touring most of Western Europe.

His first record, produced in Switzerland, was firmly in the rock music genre. That was in 1966. Ten years has seen a big development in his music. The second record, produced in Australia in 1978, was a step in the direction of acoustic, or non-electric, music. He has developed steadily since then, producing another record last year, and is confident now that he's found the style in which he is most at home.



Swiss-born Australian balladeer Franz Scheurer has returned to Jordan for his fifth tour of the Middle East (Jordan Times photo)

Mideast Goethe Institutes directors open conference

AMMAN (Petra) — A conference of directors of Goethe Institutes in the Middle East began here Monday. The four-day conference will discuss cultural relations between the Goethe Institutes and the Arab countries. The Goethe Institutes hold an

annual meeting in a Middle East capital. Directors of the Goethe Institutes in Amman, Cairo, Alexandria, Khartoum, Beirut, Damascus and representatives from the Goethe Institute management based in West Germany are attending the conference.



Chief Chamberlain, Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid (second from left) is shown around Project Orbis, the flying eye hospital, which is currently in Amman (Petra photo).

Prince Ra'd welcomes flying eye hospital

By Afifah A. Kaloti
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — "Jordan is a progressive country and we are ready to exchange views on the latest techniques in eye surgery," Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid said Monday.

Prince Ra'd, who was speaking at a press conference to welcome the flying eye hospital, Project Orbis, also praised the "dedicated" work of the hospital.

Project Orbis is in Amman at the invitation of Her Majesty Queen Noor and Prince Ra'd deputised for the Queen at the press conference held at Amman Airport which was attended by leading ophthalmologists in Jordan, and a number of blind people. Project Orbis' visit to Jordan is aimed at exchanging surgical skills with local doctors, as well as operating on a pre-selected number of patients in cooperation with Jordanian ophthalmologists. "It is a two-way traffic where eye specialists can exchange their experiences and skills, and we are really happy to participate in such a programme," Prince Ra'd added.

The press conference was attended by five distinguished Jordanian physicians, Brig. Ibrahim Ayshe of the Hussein Medical Centre, Dr. Adnan Halaseh of Malhas Hospital, Dr. Adnan Jajouly of the Islamic Hospital, Dr. Fouad Sayegh of the University of Jordan, and Dr. Muen Tal of the Ministry of Health. The sixteen members of the Orbis team, who also attended the press conference included doctors, nurses, engineers, audio-visual producers and pilots of the aircraft housing the flying eye hospital.

Public affairs director of Orbis, Oliver Foot, expressed the team's thanks to Her Majesty Queen Noor for her invitation. He also expressed thanks to the Ministry of Health, to the Hussein Medical Centre, the Amman Civil Aviation Authority and Alia, the Royal Jordanian Airline, for providing them with all the facilities they needed.

Mr. Foot said that Project Orbis is an "international teaching flying eye hospital". "We fly around the world with the aim of treating eye ailments, and exchanging new techniques in

eye surgery," he said.

"The significance of Project Orbis is that it is an educational tool by which we teach, learn and transmit the latest ophthalmological techniques gleaned from the various countries visited," Mr. Foot said.

He pointed out that there are 42 million blind people throughout the globe, and half a million suffering from eye diseases. "Our goal is to reach 12 million patients in the next decade," he stated.

Orbis, he said, is a new project which was initiated 10 months ago. "During this short period we have visited some 18 countries and 25 cities, operating on 500 patients with the participation of 1200 physicians."

Mr. Foot pointed out that the project is a private, non-profit organisation, financed by donations from individuals, corporations and foundations.

"We are very proud of our programme," he said. Political problems disappear in relation to this mission because we all have a common cause fighting the universal problem of blindness," he said.

The medical coordinator of Orbis, Dr. Robert Munch, said that the aim of Project Orbis is to exchange special surgical skills, while demonstrating techniques of modern surgery to local physicians selected by the host country.

The surgical operations, Mr. Munch said, are conducted on our special Orbis aircraft which has been adapted to hold the most sophisticated surgical equipment. "It also includes a classroom where doctors can watch the operations live on video through an audio-visual control centre," he added.

Dr. Munch, pointed out, that the uniqueness of the project. One of the main strengths of the experiment is the way it provides opportunities to establish personal contacts between specialists in the same field, he said. "It also gives us the chance to become aware of the specific problems experienced in the different areas of the world," he said.

If Orbis is found to be successful in achieving all its aims and goals "we will establish land based facilities in every country," Dr. Munch said.

After the press conference all those attending were shown around the flying hospital.

NCC passes traffic law amendments

By Lamis Andoni
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — In its regular weekly session Monday, the National Consultative Council (NCC) approved 11 more articles of a draft traffic law, and recommended that the government approve suggested amendments to the Jordanian Bar Association law enacted in 1972.

Also during the session Monday, the Jordanian government expressed its determination to continue its efforts to cover the deficit of the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA) budget in order to guarantee the continuation of the distribution of food rations for Palestinian refugees.

The articles of the draft traffic law approved during the session stipulated that a central technical bureau for traffic affairs be formed, and also amended the laws of registration and licensing vehicles.

NCC members Kamal Al Dajani suggested that the bureau be established in an auxiliary capacity with the Ministry of Interior.

Other members disagreed on this point, stating that "the bureau is a committee rather than a permanent office."

However, Mr. Dajani's proposal was approved by the council. The new Traffic Law enables the bureau to consult experts on technical or other matters.

During the discussion of articles pertaining to vehicle registration and licensing laws, several members requested that the vehicle

licences be renewed every two years—instead of each year as stipulated by the present law.

Replying to this suggestion, Prime Minister Mudar Badran pointed out that yearly renewal of vehicle licences is not aimed solely at collecting licensing fees, is a method by which the Traffic Directorate can make sure that the vehicles are fit for the roads.

The council also discussed a proposed amendment, from its Legal Committee, to change the Jordanian Bar Association law enacted in 1972.

The amendment, which was approved by the council and referred to the government, states that the law, which originally stipulated that those practising law should have no other career should not apply to those who work as journalists, teach law in college or who serve on representative councils. While some members of the NCC stated that "if a university professor practises law, this will have a negative effect on his academic performance."

Others disagreed pointing out that "practical experience enriches the quality of the university professor."

Another amendment passed by the NCC stated that the probationary period for college law department staff should be nine months, instead of two years.

The council recommended that the government approve these amendments along with other amendments submitted to it four years ago by the Jordanian Bar Association.

NCC member Leith Eshbeilat, who is also the president of the

Jordanian Engineers Association, suggested that professional association members should be allowed to participate in the discussions when their associations laws are discussed.

The chairman of the council's legal committee, Taber Hikmat, replied that this violates the council's statute which states that the "committee which studies the matter is the only party eligible to invite an outsiders presence."

The cabinet also replied to an inquiry by NCC member Abdul Salam Al Qasem about the Ministry of Occupied Territories Affairs position on "the UNRWA decision to suspend the use of ration cards which have been issued in Palestinian refugees since 1948."

In its reply, the ministry pointed out that it has no knowledge of any UNRWA decision to revoke the cards and that suspending food portions does not require a revocation of the card.

The ministry also noted that UN General Assembly passed a resolution in its recent session requesting the U.N. secretary-general in cooperation with the UNRWA commissioner-general to issue identity cards to all Palestinian refugees and evacuees and their children, whether they have ration cards or not. Jordan voted in favour of the resolution on condition that it includes guarantees of the right of the refugees and evacuees to their homeland and property in Palestine.

Finally, the ministry pledged that the Jordanian government will continue its endeavours to protect the rights and interests of Palestinian refugees.

NEWS IN BRIEF

TV station to improve transmission

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan Television (JTV) is currently making studies to strengthen its transmission signal on Channel 6 in the northern Shuneh area, and on both Channel 3 and 6 in Ma'an Governorate, a JTV spokesman said Monday. The project is expected to be completed in late April 1983, the spokesman added.

Hotel association established in Jordan

AMMAN (J.T.) — A Jordanian hotel association has been established open to hotel managerial staff, and graduates of hotel schools. Mr. Zubair Ajlouni has been elected as president of the club. Zubair Dirgham as vice president and Usamah Al Dabbas as secretary. The temporary premises of the club will be situated at the headquarters of the Jordanian Hotels Association.

Volume of traffic rises in Aqaba Port

AMMAN (Petra) — The number of ships docked in the port of Aqaba between January and October 1982 increased by 802 compared to the corresponding period of the previous year. A statistical bulletin issued by the Aqaba Port Authority said the number of ships anchored at Aqaba Port until the end of October 1982 reached 2,364 handling 3,553,631 tonnes of goods, compared to 1,562 which handled 3,358,100 tonnes during the same period in 1981.

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Asfour, Nabulsi in Baghdad

BAGHDAD (Petra) — Industry and Trade Minister Walid Asfour and Central Bank Governor Mohammad Sa'id Al Nabulsi arrived in Baghdad Monday for a visit described by Mr. Asfour as "part of the continuous economic and trade coordination between Jordan and Iraq."

In a statement to the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, Mr. Asfour said that the establishment of the joint Jordanian-Iraqi industrial company has been completed, and that both governments have agreed that the company begin its work.

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By Tony Walker

workers wages and benefits whether the enterprise prospered or not.

There was little incentive for individuals to work harder because all employees fed out of the same "big pot" or, to use a variation on the same theme, were in the possession of an "iron rice bowl" which could not be smashed.

The English language China Daily said in a recent commentary: "It is unquestionable that the iron rice bowl and eating from a single pot must go. Everybody in the country, except the lazy, supports the application of the principle, he who works more earns more."

China Daily may be right — up to a point — but there is considerable evidence of significant and widespread opposition to the

Maoists resist Deng's labour reforms

policies of Mr. Deng Xiaoping, the party leader, which are considered anathema by veteran officials brought up on a Maoist diet.

For example, prosperous peasants in rural areas are being harassed by officials jealous of their success. In Anhui province, east central China, the local radio reported late last year that hardworking peasants were being intimidated by rural cadres who had extorted money from them.

Peking Review, an official weekly news magazine, attempted to answer criticism against the new responsibility system in agriculture in a commentary last June, which stated that the differences between rich and poor had nothing to do with "class pol-

arisation."

"The responsibility system excludes the possibility of getting rich by exploiting others and therefore class polarisation will not take place with one family dominating the land while a thousand others go bankrupt," the magazine said.

Peking Review claimed that differences in income were "unavoidable" in socialist society and need not be feared. They showed, it said, the way to become prosperous by one's own efforts and such differences were therefore a prime stimulus to the growth of production.

This message obviously failed to get through to officials in Hunan province, south China, who have frustrated efforts by local peasants

to establish a transport business.

People's Daily, the Communist Party newspaper, reported late last year that the officials, on seeing the peasants prospering from their newly-established business, declared that these rural entrepreneurs were really capitalists and locked their vehicles up.

The officials had only returned the truck and tractors to their owners when they agreed to sign contracts under which the vehicles would revert to state ownership after seven or eight years.

People's Daily denounced the officials saying that their action amounted to confiscation of individual property and had dampened the peasants' enthusiasm for production.

Cases of official discrimination against the more enterprising also appear widespread in the cities. For example, there was the case of Han Kun, an engineer employed at the Shanghai Rubber Research Institute, who had demoted after his superiors discovered he had been paid for consulting services outside his normal hours of work.

Han had helped a small factory to improve the quality of its miniature rubber bearings and in doing so had saved the enterprise from bankruptcy. When the factory turned in a profit, it gave Han an award of about \$700.

After hearing about the award, Han's superiors accused him of committing a "serious economic crime" and sent him to work as a

manual labourer in a workshop, and cancelled his monthly bonus and eligibility for promotion.

The Shanghai municipal authorities have reviewed the case and reinstated Han, but the story illustrates residual opposition to new policies reflecting Mr. Deng's view that it "doesn't matter if the cat is black or white as long as it catches mice."

Indeed, China Daily reported last December that bureaucratic obstruction was hindering the development of the private sector. The paper said private traders were being discriminated against and were having to pay large sums of money and fines to officials "under all sorts of pretexts."

In an effort to encourage a better performance from Chinese workers, the authorities are experimenting with a contract labour

system. In Peking, all new employees in state and collective enterprises will be hired on contract from now on. If the enterprise fails, there will not be the same obligation on the state to continue paying workers whose jobs are affected.

It is expected the new contract system will be implemented throughout the country as an incentive to workers and management to make enterprises profitable.

Another measure being undertaken to increase the accountability of management and staff in Chinese factories is to tax enterprises on a progressive scale instead of requiring them simply to hand profits to the state.

— Financial Times news feature

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SPORTS

New Zealand beats Australia

ADELAIDE (R) — New Zealand made almost certain of a place in the World Series Cricket Cup final with a 46-run win over Australia, which left the hosts facing the embarrassing prospect of failing to qualify.

New Zealand scored 199 for nine in their quota of 50 overs and dismissed Australia for 153 in six overs fewer to stay top of the standings with 10 points and two matches left in the one-day triangular tournament.

England and Australia, both with eight points, could qualify ahead of New Zealand on run rate if they each beat the leaders in the last qualifying games in Perth this weekend.

England's superior average of 4.73 is a clear advantage if run rate is needed to resolve a tie on points, while Australia (4.03) must produce a much-improved effort in the last game to qualify against the odds ahead of New Zealand (4.58).

New Zealand captain Geoff Howarth attributed Australia's disintegrating challenge -- they won their first three games -- to a failure to cope with the pressure of batting second.

Howarth said: "They are there

cracking under pressure when chasing a target. Their batting seems to be their weak point."

Australia, with only one win in their last six games, made two changes aimed at greater flexibility in their attack by including medium pacer Ken Macleay and all-rounder Tom Hogan for their international debut instead of batsman Kepler Wessels and Dennis Lillee.

The move paid off as Macleay took one for 39 and left arm spinner Hogan two for 42 in their 10 overs to support strike bowlers Geoff Lawson, Rodney Hogg and Jeff Thomson.

Thomson snapped up three for 27, Hogg took one for 32, while Lawson did not take a wicket but conceded only 20 runs in 10 overs.

New Zealand's total was built on an accomplished top score of 84 by Glenn Turner, who came in after an opening stand of 23 and was eighth out at 171. Bruce Edgar's 18 was the next highest contribution.

Australia, with opener Allan Border hitting top score of 41, made a deceptively good start and were 103 for two at one stage.

Australia were gradually falling behind the asking rate, and crum-

pled as they played indiscreet shots in an attempt to lift the tempo.

New Zealand took a firm grip when they sent back David Hookes, Greg Chappell and Macleay while only four runs were added and Australia tumbled from 112 for three to 116 for six.

Rod Marsh led a brief revival but the New Zealanders clinched victory when they swept aside the last four wickets for 12 runs.

Richard Hadlee made another telling contribution with two for 15 in seven overs, while medium pacer Ewen Chatfield, two for 26, and Jeremy Coney, three for 40, supported effectively.

There was confusion about New Zealand's total, shown on the scoreboard as 200 but which the radio and two television scorers said should have been 199.

After the match officials watched film of the contentious 45th over by Chappell and decided 199 was the correct total. Warren Lees' score was reduced from 10 to 9 and Chappell's bowling figures altered from one for 27 to one for 26.

New Zealand's winning margin was cut by one run to 46.

Baseball's free agents striking it richer

By Murray Chass

NEW YORK — Modern baseball economics at times has produced new methods of measuring a player's value. Even a child with a calculator could figure out, for instance, that in 1981 Rennie Stennett's \$600,000 salary meant he earned \$6,896.55 for each time at bat, because he batted only 87 times that year. That, of course, is a figurative mathematical measurement.

In each of the next five seasons, Omar Moreno will provide statistics with a literal mathematical measurement. The Houston Astros will pay Moreno \$600,000 a year in salary for playing centre field, but he will earn an additional \$214.29 each time he steps to the plate.

Moreno, who signed with the Astros as a free agent last month, is one of many players whose contracts carry bonus provisions. Some of the bonuses, such as those for games or innings pitched, are relatively easy to earn because the levels stipulated in the contracts are easily attainable. Other bonuses, such as those for winning the league's most valuable player or Cy Young awards, are not so easy.

In Moreno's case, though, his contract contains a clause that could pay him a maximum of \$150,000 in addition to his \$600,000 salary. The formula the Astros will use in determining how much of that \$150,000 he will receive is based on 700 plate appearances.

If he bats at least 700 times (last season he totalled 706 plate appearances), he will get the entire \$150,000. If he has fewer than 700 at-bats, he will receive the total of the number of appearances multiplied by \$214.29. In other words, if in the season-opener Moreno bats five times, he will already have earned at least an additional \$1,071.45.

Details of Moreno's pact and other free-agent contracts were learned from various sources with access to the information that baseball clubs do not make public.

Those details show that since the Nov. 10 draft, 12 free agents have signed contracts worth a guaranteed \$1 million or more. Steve Garvey's five-year, \$6.6 million contract with the San Diego Padres is the most lucrative of the dazzling dozen, but the Yankees have committed themselves to the most money, signing three players for a guaranteed total of \$11,175,000.

Steve Kemp signed for the most Yankee money, \$5.45 million for five years, but Bob Shirley's contract -- \$2.05 million for three

years -- is easily the most surprising of the three deals because he has a career pitching record of 53 victories and 74 defeats. Don Baylor signed for \$3.675 million for four years.

The Astros also re-signed Alan Ashby, the catcher who had become a free agent. They are the only team besides the Yankees who signed more than one free agent to contracts worth more than \$1 million.

All but two of those 12 free-agent contracts -- those belonging to Terry Forster of Atlanta and Rick Manning of Cleveland -- have bonus provisions, but none of the bonuses is as easily attainable as Moreno's for plate appearances.

Four players, Garvey, Kemp, Baylor and Floyd Bannister, can earn bonuses ranging from \$50,000 to \$150,000 for winning individual awards in their leagues or if their team wins the league championship series or the World Series.

The Yankees have those provisions with both Kemp and Baylor, so they know they would have to pay off on only one if either were to win the American League MVP award. But each player also has a provision for a \$50,000 bonus if he finishes second through fifth in the voting.

Bannister is the only player of the group who could earn bonuses for being the American League's most valuable player and his Cy Young award winner. Rolfe Fingers achieved that feat in 1981, and if Bannister were to duplicate it, he would take home an extra \$250,000. Even if he didn't win either award, though, the pitcher could earn extra money because the provisions would pay off if he were to finish in the top six in the Cy Young voting and the top 10 in the MVP balloting.

Furthermore, Bannister is one of three recent free agents who have attendance clauses. The Chicago White Sox will pay Bannister \$5,000 for each block of 50,000 in attendance past 1.6 million. Garvey's bonus begins if the Padres reach 1.9 million in attendance. If they reach that plateau, the first baseman will receive \$50,000, then receive an additional \$50,000 at each of three other levels, up to 2.25 million, for a possible total of \$200,000. The third player, Al Cowens, resigned by the Mariners, will receive \$5,000 if Seattle attendance reaches 1.4 million in 1984, and \$5,000 if it reaches 1.5 million in 1985.

The White Sox record attendance was 1,657,135 in 1977; the Padres drew a club high of 1,670,107 in 1978, and the

Mariners had a record 1,338,511 in 1977.

Garvey, a successful and popular player in southern California, figures to have more of an impact on the San Diego attendance than Bannister will on Chicago's.

Ballard Smith, the Padre president, said the team had sold 1,200 new season-ticket plans in the first few weeks after Garvey was signed. "In the week after we signed Steve, which was Christmas week and a tough time to sell tickets, we sold 100 season tickets a day," Smith said.

A year ago the California Angels gave Reggie Jackson an attendance clause -- 50 cents for each paid home admission over 2.4 million -- and he wound up with an additional \$203,680 because the Angels drew an American League record 2,807,360.

Besides his various bonus possibilities, Bannister has perhaps the most unusual provisions in his contract, which is guaranteed for five years. If in the fifth year, he pitches 210 innings or makes 31 starts or appears in 48 games, the contract automatically is extended to a sixth year. The same provision applies for two additional years after that. His salary in each of those three years would be \$1.2 million or \$1 million plus the bonuses he earned in the previous season if that figure would total more than \$1.2 million.

If Bannister were to play for the maximum eight years provided in his contract, he would earn an average of more than \$1 million per year.

Shirley received the second most lucrative contract among free-agent pitchers, signing for three years and \$2.05 million. He also has bonus provisions for the Cy Young and relief pitcher of the year awards.

Shirley was one of three left-handed pitchers whose signings were announced by the Yankees on the same day. The contracts of the trio are worth more than \$7 million. Based on his impressive half-year performance as a starter last year, Shane Rawley received a four-year contract worth \$2.79 million. Dave Righetti, who last year had an \$85,000 salary following his rookie of the year award, signed a four-year contract worth \$2,265,000.

Pitcher Fernando Valenzuela of the Los Angeles Dodgers is seeking an arbitrated salary of \$1 million a year. The Associated Press reported from New York, and this time there will be no holdout if he doesn't get it.

— New York Times

TENNIS TALK

Better practice sessions

By Maureen Stalla

TODAY WE will talk about practice. I want to tell you how to dramatically improve the quality of your practice sessions without changing your actual practice time.

I have observed two practice styles here in Amman. There are the bitters--those people who go out and just hit for the joy of it. There is no focus to the session, no shots are drilled or weak points strengthened. In fact, a weakness, say a backhand, is avoided in order to preserve the joy of the session. Sets, too, are usually avoided.

There is nothing wrong with this. However this player will never do well in club tournaments and will have very little fun in casual inter-club matches where he will find, to his bewilderment, that his nice tennis game is no game at all.

Then there is the Set Fanatic. All he does is play sets. He does not even warm up more than five minutes. He may be a good competitor, but his technical game will never improve. He bangs in his first serve and blows in his second. His backhand is lousy. He will play at the same level for years even though he plays three or four times a week.

So here is how to improve: When you go out to play, warm up carefully. Hit medium speed balls concentrating on your footwork, then work on a relaxed easy swing. After you feel loose, hit specific shots: forehand to forehand, backhand to backhand, volley to one corner, hit twenty-five overheads. Then play a set -- you must play points to stay match-tough. In practice sets work on something specific; come to net on all first serves, or hit all backhands topspin and crosscourt. And please, warm up your serve. Take ten or twenty practice serves to warm up the muscles in your arm.

The secret is to go out on the court with a purpose or goal. Say it to yourself: "Today I will hit all serve returns in" or "I will not be passed." I don't want to take the joy out of the game.

Tennis is supposed to be fun! (But) I urge you to give purposeful practice a try. After all, better tennis is more fun.

East German swimmers claim overall honours at 26-nation meet

AMERSFOORT, Netherlands

(R) — East German swimmers doubled their victory tally from three to six to claim the overall honours on the last day of a three-day, 26-nation competition here Sunday.

The Netherlands finished with five wins, the United States four and Britain and the Soviet Union three each.

American team leader Rowdy Gaines had to settle for fourth place behind three East Europeans in the 200 metres freestyle. The world record holder clocked one minute 52.88 seconds as Sergei Smirjargin and Sergei Krasjock completed a one-two Soviet triumph. Winner Smirjargin recorded 1:52.53.

Gaines shared fourth spot in the 50 metres freestyle with Smirjargin. Both men were timed at 23.87 as Britain's David Lowe

triumphed in 23.48.

Lowe's compatriot Stephen Pontier won the 400 metres individual medley in 4:32.40, with Canadians Maurizio Divano and Peter Dobson second and third respectively.

Canadian Lavents Mady took the 200 metres butterfly in 2:02.98, three hundredths of a second clear of Dutch hope Frank Drost, with Pontier third.

East German Kathrin Zimmermann won the 100 metres backstroke in 1:03.22 and her team mate Anke Sonnenbrodt romped to success in the 400 metres freestyle in 4:11.22. Second placed Ine Beyeremann of West Germany only managed 4:15.97.

Ralf Buttgerit completed the East German haul, winning the 100 metres breaststroke in 1:07.38.

F.A. Cup draw kind to Tottenham

LONDON (R) — Tottenham, bidding to win the English Football Association (F.A.) Cup for the third successive year, have been drawn away to Everton in the fifth round, only the third time they will have played outside London in 19 consecutive F.A. Cup ties.

Tottenham stretched their unbeaten run in the Cup to 18 matches with Saturday's 2-1 over West Bromwich. They have not lost in the competition since March 1980.

After hearing Monday's draw manager Keith Burkinshaw said: "The draw has been kind to us over the last couple of seasons so we can't complain now we have to play away."

Cup favourites Liverpool entertain Brighton, the last side to win at Anfield last March. Liverpool have not lost a home F.A. Cup tie for 17 years.

For Brighton's caretaker manager Jimmy Melia, and midfielder Jimmy Case the match will mean an emotional return to Anfield as both are former Liverpool players.

Second favourites Manchester United travel to Derby, while European Champions Aston Villa entertain either Watford or Fulham. Second division Middlesbrough entertain the winners of the Arsenal-Leeds replay. The matches will be played on Feb. 19.

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WORLD

Pentagon wants \$238.6b in '84

WASHINGTON (R) — The Reagan administration Monday presented a \$238.6 billion defence budget for 1984 and said this was a realistic figure to make amends for neglect of U.S. military spending in the 1970s and to counter "the growing Soviet challenge."

The budget also asks Congress to approve a further \$35.5 billion in additional spending authorisations for several years beyond 1984.

The \$238.6 billion is 29.7 billion up on the amount approved by Congress for 1983 and includes \$6.6 billion in long-range spending for the controversial MX missile and 6.9 billion for the new B-1 bomber.

Stiff opposition is expected in Congress to the defence plans on the grounds that spending remains too high, especially because of projected cuts in social welfare programmes and a \$189 billion deficit in the overall \$848.5 billion budget.

But Defence Secretary Caspar Weinberger said the defence budget figures represent "a realistic reassessment" of military needs.

"No superiority bid" He said there had been great

neglect of the military in the 1970s, and added: "We are not trying to gain superiority. We are trying to regain sufficient strength to deter attack."

Mr. Weinberger said "force modernisation will continue, as planned, to meet the growing Soviet challenge."

He noted Mr. Reagan had already cut \$8 billion from original 1984 spending proposals, and he has previously said further reductions would jeopardise U.S. security.

But critics of the \$8 billion cuts say they are only paper reductions flowing from reduced inflation estimates, lower fuel costs and a freeze in military pay.

The budget shows that proposed arms spending over the next five years remains at around \$1.600 billion.

It reflects a 6.9 per cent increase



Caspar Weinberger

in inflation for major weapons systems costs.

The Pentagon asked for a total of \$274.1 billion, but \$35.5 billion of this was in the form of additional authorisations to be spent over several years beyond 1984.

In its request to Congress, the Pentagon also requested a \$1.6 billion addition to its 1983 budget to restore money rejected by Congress for MX and Pershing II missile production and to support key North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) programmes.

Additional \$1.6b

At the same time, it sought permission to cut \$650 million added to the 1983 budget by Congress for programmes which it said were not necessary for the country's defence.

Congress has withheld missile production funds until a basing system is found for the MX and until the Pershing II, which the administration wants to start deploying in Western Europe in December, has proved itself in test flights.

In his 1984 spending plans, Mr. Weinberger asked for \$11.6 billion for continued modernisation of the strategic nuclear arsenal.

Apart from the MX and B-1, he wanted \$2.5 billion for the Trident nuclear submarine programme.

The nuclear triad

The MX, B-1 and the Trident are part of America's so-called nuclear triad, which President Reagan has contended needs to be improved to counter new and more accurate Soviet nuclear weapons.

For building up conventional forces, Mr. Weinberger asked for \$2.3 billion each to build F-15 and F-16 fighter aircraft and \$1.4 bil-

lion for C-5b cargo planes.

Also requested were \$1.5 billion for AH-64 anti-tank helicopters: 1.2 billion for short take-off Harrier air-support fighter planes: 1.3 billion for F-14 fighter planes and 2.8 billion for F-18 fighters.

Shipbuilding requests included \$3.7 billion for cruisers, 1.4 billion for amphibious assault ships and 2.2 billion for nuclear attack submarines.

For the M-1 tank, the Pentagon sought \$1.8 billion.

The budget also included a request for approval to increase troop strength by 37,700. At the end of the year U.S. fighting forces stood at 2,112,000.

Mr. Weinberger said aid force flying hours and days at sea for the navy would also be increased.

Discussing calls by some critics for cutbacks of as much as \$25 billion in defence spending, Mr. Weinberger said this could be done only by cancelling the Trident strategic and attack submarine programme, five kinds of air force and navy fighter aircraft considered vital to defence needs, the C-5b cargo plane and the MX.

Also, he added, a sizable portion of the Cruise missile programme would have to be scrapped.

Peruvian newsmen said to be killed by peasants

LIMA (R) — Eight missing Peruvian journalists and their guide, found dead near a remote Andean village, were killed by terrified peasants who thought they were left wing guerrillas seeking revenge, President Belaunde Terry said.

Police and troops in the military-controlled province of Ayacucho found the nine bodies buried in the high Andes near the village of Unchuraccay, about 600 kilometres southeast of Lima.

The journalists vanished last Wednesday after going into the province to report on the activities of the Maoist Sendero Luminoso (Lighted Path) guerrilla movement.

President Belaunde said the journalists were murdered by mistake by peasants who killed seven leftist guerrillas a week ago.

"The community where this happened feared a counter-attack from the terrorists and acted in the same way it did the first time that it repulsed the subversives," the president told a press conference Sunday.

Peruvian Journalists' Union leader Mario Castro Arenas said Sunday night that 21 rolls of film found with the bodies were being developed Monday and might identify the attackers.

A judge in the provincial capital of Ayacucho said the bodies showed signs of having been

beaten with sticks and stones.

The day before the journalists disappeared, about 300 Uchuraccay peasants, including women, attacked and killed seven suspected Sendero Luminoso guerrillas with stones and agricultural tools.

Military commanders in the province sent a platoon of troops to the area to ward off new guerrilla attacks.

The local commander, Gen. Roberto Noel, told reporters Sunday night that peasants in the area "live in a total state of terror."

The president said he wanted a special commission of enquiry set up "so that we can find out exactly what happened."

He added: "Setting up a commission of the zone's military command will not be sufficient. I think we must go further than that."

Ayacucho has long been the base of Sendero Luminoso guerrillas. Their increased attacks since democracy was restored to Peru two years ago forced the government to clamp the province and the neighbouring provinces of Huancavelica and Apurimac under military control in December.

In 1982, 160 people died in political violence. About 90 people, including the eight reporters and their guide, have been killed so far this year.

NEWS IN BRIEF

'Counterfeit traitor' dies in France

PARIS (R) — Eric Erickson, a Swede who spied for the Allies during World War II while posing as a fanatical Nazi supporter, has died in the south of France. He was 93. Mr. Erickson, whose death last week was reported Monday by the Swedish embassy in Paris, was born in New York City of Swedish parents. Early in life he worked as an oil-field engineer before becoming a representative in Asia for various oil firms. By the outbreak of the war, he had started business as an oil importer in Sweden, becoming a naturalised Swedish subject. According to the "encyclopedia of Espionage," he agreed to an American request that he should report on German synthetic oil production, a mission he performed during frequent trips to Germany from 1941 to 1944. Mr. Erickson was the subject of a best-selling book by Alexander Klein called "The Counterfeit Traitor," which became a film of the same name starring the late William Holden.

5 girls die in bus crash

ABU DHABI (R) — Five girl students, all from the same family, and a driver were killed when their bus was in collision with another vehicle in Dubai Sunday, the Emirates news agency reported Monday. It said another seven female students were injured, most of them seriously.

Dacca politicians demand democracy

DACCA (R) — Political parties in Bangladesh Monday charged that military ruler Lt. Gen. Hussain Mohammad Ershad's plans to alter the country's constitution was an attempt to distort democracy. His assurance that democracy would be restored after constitutional changes had been made was "not an olive branch, but a ploy to beguile the people into accepting a distorted form of democracy," 15 parties said in a joint statement. The signatories to the statement included the Awami League, founded by assassinated President Sheikh Mujibur Rahman. They asked the military government to lift martial law and restore democracy on the basis of a 1972 constitution which was suspended by Gen. Ershad after he came to power in a bloodless coup last March.

Nigerian leader ends Pakistan visit

KARACHI (R) — President Abul Kalam Azadi of Nigeria left Monday for Lagos after a state visit to Pakistan. He was seen off at Karachi airport by Pakistani President Mohammad Zia-ul-Haq and other high-ranking officials.

Labour claim about Falklands denied

LONDON (R) — Lord Lewin, British chief of defence staff during the Falklands War, has denied that ships sent to the South Atlantic in 1977 by the then Labour government had orders to attack Argentine vessels threatening the islands. Former Labour Foreign Secretary David Owen said during debates in Parliament last week that the Labour government had ordered a nuclear submarine and two frigates to the British colony. He said they had orders to torpedo any hostile Argentine vessels within 80 kilometres of the islands. Lord Lewin, who retired last year, suggested in a radio interview that Dr. Owen's memory was defective. "I cannot believe that any British government in peacetime would authorise a nuclear submarine to take the first hostile action against another power."

Filipino Muslims want talks resumed

KARACHI (R) — Filipino Muslim leaders have called for a resumption of talks with the government in Manila on agreements reached in Libya six years ago aimed at ending a secessionist rebellion in the southern Philippines. A communiqué issued after a three-day meeting called for negotiation of a ceasefire agreement signed in Tripoli in Dec. 1976 by Muslim secessionists and Philippines.

Wall Street newspaper makes European debut

BRUSSELS (R) — The United States' largest-circulation newspaper began publishing in Europe Monday with the launch of the Wall Street Journal Europe.

The daily newspaper, edited in Brussels and printed in the Netherlands for distribution throughout Europe and the Middle East, said in a front page editorial that it was aimed primarily at executives active in international business.

Laid out in the familiar standard format of its U.S. parent, the two-part newspaper, with news and financial markets sections, has an editorial staff of around 25.

It will also use reports from the U.S. paper's staff and from journalists with the AP-Dow Jones news service.

Owned by the Dow-Jones corporation it is the second international edition of the two-million circulation Wall Street Journal. An Asian edition was launched six years ago.

Industry analysts expect the journal to have an initial circulation of between 10,000 and 15,000 copies and to compete primarily with the British-owned Financial Times and the Paris-based International Herald Tribune.

Singapore's cable cars resume services again

SINGAPORE (R) — Ferry services from Singapore to Sentosa resumed Monday, less than 48 hours after a freak accident killed seven people travelling to the resort island by cable car.

Two-kilometre-long cableway linking Singapore and Sentosa was ordered closed indefinitely for repairs and maintenance as the government prepared to appoint a commission to probe the accident.

Two cable cars hurtled more than 70 metres into the sea after a floating oil rig got entangled in the overhead cables, killing three Australians, two Americans and two Malaysians. The only survivor was a two-year-old Malaysian boy thrown clear.

Thirteen people stranded in five other cable cars were rescued by army helicopters in a daring operation early Sunday, almost 10 hours after the accident.

Officials said that both the cable cars in the water had now been found. There were no bodies apart from the seven pulled out Sunday. The rig was freed from the cables Monday.

Film shows how sober Soviets avoid world war

Showing off hardware

MOSCOW (R) — Reckless U.S. officers using unreliable technology may catapult the world to the brink of war but the cool professionalism of the Soviet forces will save the day, according to a new film now showing in Moscow.

"Incident in Quadrant 36-80" presents the American threat in the form of a crazed, gun-toting naval commander in charge of an unpredictable nuclear submarine.

The vessel springs a leak in its reactor, undergoes a fire and then suffers a computer malfunction which fires off two missiles at nearby Soviet warships.

The Soviet side reacts to this chain of events with restraint, politeness and humanity.

A team of Soviet engineers is parachuted into the sea to help to repair the submarine, only to be chased off by a burst of gunfire from the crazed commander.

After Soviet ship-board defence systems have easily destroyed the two missiles, the admiral in charge of the Soviet fleet listens politely to pleas from the U.S. opposite not to blow up the submarine in a retaliatory strike and agrees. A fearful escalation is thus avoided.

One of the chief purposes of the film is evidently to allow Soviet cinema-goers a glimpse of some of Moscow's latest military technology.

Much of the action is filmed on board the huge aircraft carrier Kiev and jump-jets are shown scrambling into action from its decks.

The effectiveness of ship-board anti-missile systems is demonstrated and viewers are given a close-up of mid-air refuelling techniques for Soviet jet fighter-bombers.

Western military attaches are also reported to have found the film of interest.

But the film's main message is that the threat to peace comes from U.S. personnel rather than the rickety machinery they are seen to control.

While cowboy types in baseball hats and dark glasses seem to occupy all the senior positions in the U.S. Navy and air force, the Soviet staff are shown as quiet, sober-faced men mindful of their responsibilities to wives and children at home.

Regulation for Filipino domestic servants eased

MANILA (R) — Filipino domestic servants working in other Asian countries will be allowed to complete the job of sending home half their salaries when they return to the Philippines, labour ministry officials said Monday.

Elmer Juridico, a director of the Philippine overseas employment administration, said many overseas workers, including several thousand Filipino women working as maids in Hong Kong and Singapore, had difficulty in remitting their salaries regularly through local banks.

"If they want to remit their salaries when they come home, that's all right," he said. "They need not do it every month."

Under existing regulations, domestic servants working abroad must send back half their basic monthly pay, but many sent the money back by post or with friends and the government

imposed penalties last week to try to force them to use the official banking system.

More than 600,000 Filipinos work abroad and they sent back \$800 million last year. Officials believe the new ruling will increase the amount to \$1.5 billion this year.

Mr. Juridico said maids and other overseas workers must show proof that they had changed the required portion of their salaries into pesos.

Domestic helpers must remit 50 per cent of their salaries, while doctors, lawyers, engineers, teachers, nurses and other professional as well as seamen and construction workers must send home 70 per cent.

Ministry officials said the regulations were aimed at cutting the country's balance of payments deficit and preventing black market currency operations.

Yugoslav president to discuss summit with Indonesian leader

JAKARTA (R) — Yugoslav President Petar Stambolic arrives here Tuesday for talks with President Suharto of Indonesia which will centre on issues expected to come up at the forthcoming Non-Aligned Summit meeting in New Delhi.

Indonesian officials said the two countries shared similar views on various world issues and ways to settle them.

Yugoslavia has already expressed support for Indonesia and other countries who have asked India to invite Prince Norodom Sihanouk, leader of the exiled Kampuchean coalition government, to represent his country at the summit and called for the withdrawal of Vietnamese forces from the territory.

But New Delhi has said the summit itself should take a decision on this.

The campaign in favour of Prince Sihanouk is led by Indonesia, Malaysia, Singapore,

Thailand and Philippines, all members of the Association of South East Asian Nations (ASEAN).

In an interview published here Sunday Mr. Stambolic said the Delhi conference should try to settle the crises in the Middle East, Southern Africa, Kampuchea and Afghanistan and find a solution to the Iran-Iraq war.

He said conflicts in these areas affected the international situation and threatened the security of individual nations as well as entire regions.

He said Yugoslavia believed solutions to these crises required the withdrawal of foreign troops, ending hostilities, stopping foreign interferences and starting negotiations.

Gen. Suharto and Mr. Stambolic are also expected to discuss bilateral matters including ways to improve trade and economic relations.

Monaco's ruler visits Paris with his daughter

PARIS (R) — Prince Rainier of Monaco and his daughter Princess Caroline, in their first foreign public engagement since the death of Princess Grace last September, landed in Paris Monday.

Arriving at the Elysee Palace, Prince Rainier, 59, reviewed French troops in full ceremonial dress under protocol reserved for visiting heads of state.

At his wife's funeral, the prince had seemed a shattered man and was reported at the time to be considering abdication in favour of his 25-year-old son, Prince Albert.

But Monday's luncheon engagement with President Mitterrand appeared to indicate that he intends to carry on as head of state in his tiny Mediterranean principality.

Princess Caroline, 26, looking dignified in a black coat over a grey Prince of Wales check suit, smiled briefly for eager photographers as she arrived at the Elysee.

Mr. Mitterrand and Prince Rainier held a short meeting before proceeding to the luncheon, also attended by officials from Monaco and French External Relations Minister Claude Cheysson.

Since emerging from a three-month mourning period, Prince Rainier's family has slowly resumed the public activities abandoned when Princess Grace, 52, died after a car crash.

Last month, Prince Rainier announced he was delegating responsibilities formerly held by Princess Grace to the two eldest of his three children.

Prince Albert, now in New York learning business methods with a major bank, took over as head of the Monaco Red Cross organisation.

Princess Caroline's new duties include presiding over the Riviera resort's international arts festival.

Her sister, Princess Stephanie, who celebrates her 18th birthday Tuesday, has been recovering from a spinal injury she suffered at her mother's side in the car crash.

She will be given official duties upon reaching 21, the age of majority in Monaco, Prince Rainier said.

U.N. envoy returns to Pakistan after 'very good trip' to Afghan capital

ISLAMABAD (R) — A United Nations envoy seeking a political settlement in Afghanistan returned here Monday for more talks with Pakistani officials after what he called "a very good trip" to the Afghan capital Kabul.

U.N. Under-Secretary General Diego Cordovez told reporters he had substantive talks with the Afghan authorities.

"I had a very good trip to Kabul and am satisfied with the trip. We addressed ourselves very seriously to substantive issues involved for the contents of a comprehensive settlement," he said.

Mr. Cordovez is on his second trip to the area since last April as U.N. Secretary-General Javier Perez de Cuellar's personal representative.

He went to Kabul after talks with officials in neighbouring Iran and Pakistan who want an estimated 100,000 Soviet troops withdrawn from Afghanistan and about four million Afghan refugees now in the two countries to return home.

The Soviet forces are fighting guerrillas opposed to the government of President Babrak Karmal.

Mr. Cordovez said he had returned to Islamabad to see Pakistani Foreign Minister Sahabzada Yaqub Khan in the light of his meetings in Kabul with Afghan Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost and with the Afghan president and Prime Minister Sul-

tan Ali Kishmand.

Asked if the Afghan government had responded well to his mission, he said: "Yes, I am satisfied with the Kabul response and that is why I am here in Islamabad."

An alliance of seven Afghan resistance groups based in Pakistan denounced Mr. Cordovez's mission Sunday as an insult to the Afghan people's struggle.

An alliance statement criticised his meetings with Afghan leaders whom it said were "surrogates of Russians" and did not deserve recognition by international organisations like the U.N.

Pakistani officials said Mr. Cordovez was expected to stay in Islamabad for a couple of days.

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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East-West vulnerable. West deals.

NORTH
 ♠ 754
 ♥ 54
 ♦ AQ97
 ♣ 9754

WEST EAST
 ♠ AQJ1096 ♠ 8
 ♥ 96 ♥ 832
 ♦ 2 ♦ J10863
 ♣ AK32 ♣ Q1086

SOUTH
 ♠ K32
 ♥ AKQJ107
 ♦ K54
 ♣ J

The bidding:
 West North East South
 1♠ Pass Pass 3♥
 2♠ 4♥ Pass Pass
 3♠

Opening lead: King of ♣.

The rarest of all squeezes is the "squeeze in one suit." This example, which appeared in the 1969 Italian Championship, is credited to Pietro Forquet, regarded by many as the greatest bridge player of his time.

The bidding is self-explanatory. However, North's decision to bid four hearts can be attributed only to the faith he had in his partner's dummy play.

West led the king of clubs and continued with the ace. Declarer ruffed and drew three rounds of trumps. His first problem was what to discard from the table. Most

players would stuff a black card just in case they could score North's fourth diamond, and then they would have to concede defeat. But Forquet discarded the seven of diamonds. He used dummy's ace and queen of diamonds to ruff two clubs, reducing the hand to this position:

NORTH
 ♠ 754
 ♥ —
 ♦ —
 ♣ —

WEST EAST
 ♠ AQJ6 ♠ 8
 ♥ — ♥ —
 ♦ — ♦ J108
 ♣ — ♣ —

SOUTH
 ♠ K32
 ♥ —
 ♦ —
 ♣ —

Declarer now cashed the king of diamonds, and West found that he was squeezed in spades. If he discarded a low spade, declarer would lead a low spade, West would be forced to win the jack, and then he would have to concede the fulfilling trick to declarer's spade king. So West parted with his jack of spades.

Forquet had a brilliant rejoinder—he exited with the king of spades! West could win the ace and queen, but then was forced to concede the tenth trick to the seven of spades that declarer had preserved so carefully in dummy with his discard at trick four!

Handwritten signature: 15p